

## Want More Information?

For *RainScapes Rewards* rebate applications, news, and more information, visit: [rainscapes.org](https://rainscapes.org)

For information about stormwater management, watersheds and water quality protection in Montgomery County, visit: [montgomerycountymd.gov/stormwater](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/stormwater)



Get started today at  
[rainscapes.org](https://rainscapes.org)



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For customer service, call 311

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# RAINSCAPES REWARDS

Helping Homes  
and Businesses Reduce  
Stormwater Runoff with  
Environmentally-friendly  
Landscaping



Montgomery County, Maryland

## What is *RainScapes Rewards*? What's In It For You?

The *RainScapes Rewards* Program offers Montgomery County residents and businesses financial incentives and technical assistance to install landscaping features that reduce stormwater (or rain runoff) coming from their property.

Visit the RainScapes website at [www.rainscapes.org](https://www.rainscapes.org) to determine the amount of rebate that is available for your property.



### RainScapes Have Multiple Benefits

RainScapes help prevent water pollution, recharge ground-water, and protect the health of our streams and rivers, one property at a time. They also save money by reducing water and energy use, and they add beautiful features to improve property value.

### Why is Stormwater Runoff a Problem?

On impervious urban surfaces—pavement, driveways, roads, rooftops, and even lawns—rainfall does not soak into the ground. Instead it becomes stormwater runoff, which carries urban pollutants—excess lawn-care chemicals, sediment, debris and trash, and leaking auto fluids—directly through storm drains into local streams and creeks, and eventually into our rivers. Stormwater's fast, erosive flows damage the habitat and biology of our smaller streams. Stormwater is the leading cause of pollution and degradation in Montgomery County's streams, and the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers.



### How To Get a *RainScapes Rewards* Rebate

*Properties eligible for the rebates must be located in Montgomery County, Maryland outside the municipal limits of the Cities of Rockville, Takoma Park, and Gaithersburg.*

*Applicants must fill in a Rebate application.*

**Go to [rainscapes.org](https://rainscapes.org) to learn more about:**

1. eligibility requirements
2. design requirements for each RainScape technique
3. site inspection process
4. other requirements

**Apply online at:**

[rainscapes.org](https://rainscapes.org)



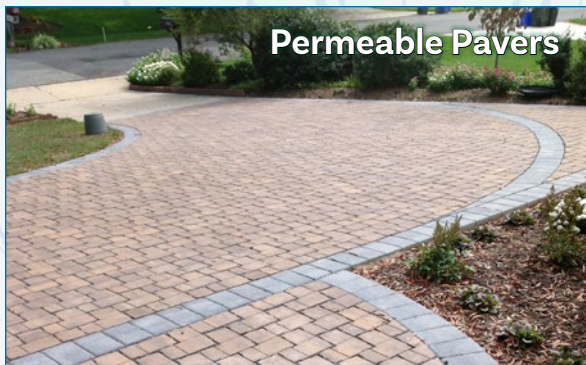
# Consider a RainScape For Your Yard or Property!

A variety of landscaping features capture and absorb rainfall, instead of allowing it to run off as stormwater. The landscaping features below are available for *RainScapes Rewards* rebates.



**Conservation Landscape**

**Conservation Landscapes** replace traditional lawns that use expensive chemicals and are time-consuming to maintain. Conservation landscapes contain easy-to-maintain native plants which are adapted to local conditions, are able to survive periods of drought, and add beauty to your property.



**Permeable Pavers**

**Permeable Pavers** allow rainwater to filter through the ground naturally, rather than end up in local streams as stormwater runoff. To reduce runoff, replace impervious surfaces like concrete or asphalt driveways with permeable pavers.

A **Rain Garden** is a shallow depression with native plants and a soil mix that collects rainfall and allows it to filter into the ground. The strong, deep roots of the native plants absorb and filter water.



**Rain Garden**

**Pavement Removal** is the most direct way to reduce impervious area. After removing pavement, the area should be prepared and planted so that water can soak in rather than run off.



**Pavement Removal**



**Green Roof**

A **Green Roof** is planted with low maintenance, drought-resistant plants such as sedum. It is first covered with a water-proofing membrane, then with a system that holds a lightweight soil mixture. The roof is structurally strong enough to retain some rainfall, while allowing larger volumes to filter through and off the roof. The result is both reduced and cleaner stormwater runoff. Green roofs also lead to more energy-efficient heating and cooling.



**Rain Barrel**

**Rain Barrels** collect and store rain from rooftops and make the water available for various yard uses. They reduce stormwater runoff and also conserve water.

A **Cistern** is a water harvesting container that is larger than a rain barrel. It may be located above-ground or partially underground. Water captured in cisterns may be used on lawns and gardens. Cisterns are a good choice when space is limited, but they require planning for the intended water use. Potable or other domestic use of cistern water is currently not allowed under plumbing codes.



**Cistern**

More information about all 7 of these techniques can be found on the **RainScapes** website.

Download step-by-step instructions, rebate details, and plant lists at **[rainscapes.org](https://rainscapes.org)**